

Message Text

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46

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 XMB-04 EB-07 CAB-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 TRSE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 AID-05 L-02 OMB-01 /075 W

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R 141356Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3013

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

FAA BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BEIRUT 2431

DEPARTMENT PASS COMMERCE FOR COHEN AND EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IN

SUBJ: AIR-INDIA AND INDIAN AIRLINES REEQUIPMENT

REF: BOMBAY 0444

1. RCAA, UPON RETURN TO BEIRUT, NOTED SEVERAL POINTS
REFTEL WHICH BEAR FURTHER CLARIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

A. PARAGRAPH 1A) REFTTEL LAST SENTENCE SHOULD READ:
FORECAST FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1976 SHOWS
RESUMED PROFITABLY FOR AIR-INDIA.

B. PARAGRAPH 2B) REFTTEL SHOULD BE CORRECTED
TO NOW READ AS FOLLOWS: US WIDEBODIED TRIJETS
(L1011-1 AND DC 10-10) HAVE CONSIDERABLY MORE RANGE
AND VERSATILITY THAN A-300B2, IN PERMITTING MORE
ADEQUATE COVERAGE ON FUTURE REGIONAL OVER-WATER
ROUTES. RANGE PERFORMANCE OF THE THREE AIRCRAFT WITH
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FULL PASSENGER AND BAGGAGE PAYLOAD IS AS FOLLOWS:

L1011-1, 3270 NAUTICAL MILES (54,648 LBS. PAYLOAD);
DC 10-10, 3365 NAUTICAL MILES (53,262 LBS, PAYLOAD);
A-300B2, 1570 NAUTICAL MILES (44,549 LBS. PAYLOAD).
(A-300B4 (NOT OFFERED TO INDIAN AIRLINES), 2285 NAUTICAL
MILES (44,594 LBS. PAYLOAD).

2. ALSO OF INTEREST, RCAA INFORMED BY DEPUTY
MANAGING DIRECTOR INDIAN AIRLINES A.H. MEHTA DURING
NEW DELHI VISIT LAST WEEK, THAT DESPITE EARLIER FORE-
CAST HEAVY LOSSES FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, AIRLINE
WILL REGISTER SAMLL NET PROFIT FOR TWELVE MONTHS
ENDING MARCH 31, 1975. THIS TURN-AROUND DUE
ELIMINATION UNPROFITABLE ROUTE SECTORS, SHARPLY IN-
CREASED AIRCRAFT AND CREW UTILIZATION, IMPROVED
PASSENGER AND CARGO HANDLING AND OPERATIONAL PRO-
CEDURES, IMPROVED MANAGEMENT-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, AND
25 PCT. FARE INCREASE TO COVER SHARP INCREASE IN PRICE
OF FUEL, LABOR AND MATERIAL. MEHTA ALSO INDICATES
AIRLINE'S THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH BOEING ADVANCED
737-1A8 TWINJETS WILL BE DELIVERED FALL 1975. FOR
WHAT IT'S WORTH, MEHTA ALSO INDICATES STONG PREFER-
ENCE LOCKHEEL L-1011-1 TRISTAR FOR INDIAN AIRLINES
WIDEBODIED ACQUISITION AND DEPLOYMENT.
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